

Today's
Advertisements.CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR NAGASAKI.
THE Company's Steamship
"SUNGKIANG,"
Captain Rendle, will be despatched as above
TO-MORROW, the 12th instant at Daylight.
For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 11th May, 1898. [610]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW.
THE Company's Steamship
"HAITAN,"
Captain Hall, will be despatched for the
above Ports, on FRIDAY, the 13th instant, at
10 A.M.
For Freight or Passage apply to
DOUGLAS LAIRRAIK & Co.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 11th May, 1898. [615]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON, VIA SUEZ CANAL.
THE Company's Steamship
"ANTENOR,"
Captain Jackson, will be despatched as above
on MONDAY, the 16th instant, at 3 P.M.
For Freight, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.
Hongkong, 11th May, 1898. [578]

PACIFIC MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.
"PERU,"
THE above Steamer having arrived, Con-
signees of Cargo are hereby requested to
send in their Bills of Lading for counter-
signature and to take immediate delivery of
their Goods from alongside.
Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel
will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and
expense.
J. S. VAN BUREN,
Agent.
Hongkong, 11th May, 1898. [1-1-1]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND
SINGAPORE.
THE Company's Steamship
"SUISANG,"
having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees
of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their
Goods will be delivered from alongside.
Cargo impeding the discharge or remaining on
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at Consignees' risk and expense into Godowns
at East Point.
No Fire Insurance will be effected.
Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
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Hongkong, 11th May, 1898. [3-4-616]

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Intimation.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINES & SPIRITS.

ALL these are selected by our London
House, bought direct at first hand, imported in
wood and bottled by ourselves, thus saving all
intermediate profits, and enabling us to supply
the best growths at MODERATE PRICES.

PRICE LISTS, with Full Details, to be had on
Application.

PORT after removal should be rested a month
before use. When required for drinking at
once it should be ordered to be decanted at
the Dispensary before being sent out.

SHERRY.—Excellent Dinner and After Dinner
Wines of very superior Vintages. All are
true Xeres Wines.

CLARET.—Our Claret, including the lowest
priced, are guaranteed to be the genuine
product of the juice of the grape and are
not artificially made from raisins and
currants, as is generally the case with Cheap
Wines.

BRANDY.—All our Brandy is guaranteed to
be pure Cognac, the difference in price
being merely a question of age and vintage.

WHISKY.—All our Whisky is of excellent
quality and of greater age than most brand,
in the market. The SCOTCH WHISKY
marked "E" is universally popular, and is
pronounced by the best local connoisseurs
to be superior to any other brand in the
Hongkong market.

We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to
be genuine when bought direct from us in the
Colony or from our authorized Agents at the
Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1897. [7]

DEATH.

On 11th inst., at Kowloon Dock, Mrs. G.
PATTON.

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MAY 11, 1898.

DEFENCELESS HONGKONG.

Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, ex-governor of
Hongkong, has for once dropped his
favourite *façade* role and has spoken out
vigorously. What he had to say was a
censure of official negligence or ignorance;
and consequently he was reprimanded by
the Lords of Officialdom. Hongkong
owes him its gratitude for speaking out,
and we trust that somebody will see to it,
that he is duly thanked as he deserves.
He said, what everybody out here knows,
that Hongkong would be utterly untenable
if the hills of Chinese Kowloon were oc-
cupied by an enemy with artillery; and we
have no force to prevent such occupation.
The Hongkong garrison could not pos-
sibly cover the broken country immedi-
ately behind British Kowloon. Some ten or
twenty miles of rough ground, honey-
combed everywhere by ravines, cannot
possibly be held by the tiny body of
troops in Hongkong. The strip of land
must be occupied and fortified; and
artillery alone cannot defend such places.
In the war of 1894-5, the Chinese
artillerymen at Port Arthur and Wei-
hai-wai stuck to their guns and worked them
as long as possible; common report not-
withstanding, the testimony of eye-
witnesses is that in most cases the gun-crews
worked their weapons manfully until they
found swarms of Japanese had crept up
the nullahs and were at close range, like
a swarm of bees. What use is a 45-ton
cannon against a thousand black dots
hiding all over a hillside? As well try to
pick off a cloud of mosquitoes one by one
with an Indian club. To save Hongkong
from a land attack, a very large force of
mountain artillery and riflemen, with
several good forts and numerous redoubts
and block-houses, are needed on the hills
of Chinese Kowloon. It is not enough to
provide against the capture of the island
of Hongkong; it is not enough that the
forts on the island command the harbour
and the shore of the mainland. Let an
enemy get a single big gun planted on the
hills behind British Kowloon, and in half
an hour irreparable damage could be done
to this naval station before our defenders
could get much defending accomplished.
The enemy need not capture the place;
a little shelling would suffice.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, strange as it may
seem to some, has made a mistake. In
the course of debate in the House of Com-
mons he stated that he "does not approve
of officials in the colonial service or re-
gularly in that service" giving their opina-
tions to newspapers "on debatable ques-
tions and public policy." Indeed? Does
the right hon. gentleman then seriously
suggest that experienced officials, whose
knowledge and colonial experience might
naturally predispose one to consider their
utterances with respect, are not to be
trusted in matters of public discretion?
Or is it that their ignorance—from a
Government point of view—is as a rule
too astounding?

The observations from the Colonial
Minister could hardly have been less hap-
pily timed, seeing that immediately after-
wards Mr. CURZON (the Under Secretary
for Foreign Affairs) had to confess that
the important rumour about Russian troops
in Manchuria, concerning which he was
now making enquiries at Peking, only be-
came known to him through the Press!
If a new muzzling order is really necessary,
Cabinet Ministers should first apply.

In the China seas Great Britain possesses
one single naval, military, and commercial
base—Hongkong. Here is the one coaling
station which we own for our fleet in the
whole vast extent of sea between
Singapore on the one hand and Esquimaux
on the other. Here are the only docks
where ships operating between these two
enormously distant points can in time of
war refit. Here are our munitions of
war. Here are barracks for our troops.
Above all, here is the centre and the
keystone of the whole of that vast trade
with the Far East, to retain which Sir
MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH said that we were
prepared to run all risks, even the risk of
war. Take away Hongkong, and the
foundation of British power in the China
seas is instantly destroyed. Without a
dockyard, and without coal, our fleet will
be paralysed, and its ability to afford pro-
tection to the British flag will be gone. And
yet Hongkong is inadequately defended at
the present time. The Government
spent large sums on naval and military
establishments in the island, and are about
to spend, as Mr. GOSCHEN has just borne
witness, a large amount more. Yet the
terrible fact remains that Hongkong is at
the mercy of the foe. The south side of
the island is practically undefended, and
there is nothing to prevent an enemy from
landing there, while it would be still easier
for him to land in Mira Bay, shell Hong-
kong for an hour at night, and go away
unhurt, leaving Hongkong utterly useless
as a naval base. These and other facts
equally direful are pressed with almost
despairing energy in a letter, published in
the *Navy League Journal* of last month,
from the Hon. Secretary of the Hongkong
Branch. From this letter, which is dated
January 10 last, and which represents the
views of the whole British community
here, we quote the following passage:—

As a naval station and as an arsenal for the
supply of our ships in the East, Hongkong as it
present constituted is utterly unsafe. The
harbour lies between the island of Hongkong
and the mainland of China. It is nowhere more
than three miles wide. It is commanded in
every part from the hills on the mainland, which
run along the whole northern boundary. These
hills vary from 800 to 1,200 ft. in height, and
are passable in many places. These hills are
in Chinese territory, and are easily accessible
from the sea on their northern slopes, both on
the east and on the west. Deep Bay running in
on the west and Mira Bay on the east, and
coming so close to the northern slopes of these
hills immediately behind Kowloon that it is only
a few miles' walk from the head of Mira Bay
across the hills to the edge of the harbour.
Mira Bay has its entrance on the coast, miles to
the eastward of Hongkong and entirely beyond
the range of our defences. Mira Bay with its
numerous inlets is a magnificent sheet of water,
perfectly landlocked, capable of floating all the
ships of the world, and affording easy landing
places for men and guns; and there is no diffi-
culty in getting either men or guns of consider-
able calibre to the tops of the hills commanding
our harbour. Once in position there, an enemy
would be inside our defences and would have
the docks, the harbour, the naval yard and
barracks, and the city itself at his mercy.

To the south there are absolutely no defences
on the island itself, and the greater portion of
the coast-line is easily accessible for troops and
guns, and numerous roads lead to points from
which the harbour, the naval arsenal, and the
city would be exposed to fire. The sea to the
south and west of Hongkong is full of islands,
mountainous in character, affording shelter in
innumerable bays and creeks for an enemy's
vessels, whence expeditions could be organised
to coast for sudden descents on our exposed
northern side, on which are all our reservoirs of
water for the supply of the town and garrison.
All these islands are Chinese. They ought to
be, for the effective defence of Hongkong, under
the English flag. The defences of Hongkong, as
at present constructed, are designed solely and
entirely for the purpose of preventing an enemy's
fleet from effecting an entrance into the harbour
at either end. These forts and batteries require
for their defence the entire strength of the
garrison, without leaving any men available for
the protection of the northern heights or
of the southern side of the island. A sham
attack in the absence of our fleet—and we are
continually cautioned that *in case of war the
fleet will be elsewhere*, and that *we cannot
rely on it for the defence of Hongkong*—by
three or four vessels of an enemy's fleet would
call the entire garrison into the forts at the
Lymington to the east, and Stonecutters' and
Belcher's Bay to the west, and leave the colony
defenceless against a military force coming from
the direction of Mira Bay, or attempt a landing
from the south.

It is impossible to read this letter and
to realise the situation without a burning
of the spirit. The whole Press of Britain,
without distinction of party, and without,
for this once, caring whether the subject
interests its readers or not, ought to take
the matter up and never cease pressing it
upon the authorities until Hongkong is safe.
The best way to obtain this end is
through the Navy League, which every
British subject should join and cordially
support.

THE FUTURE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

LONDON, May 9th.

The *Times* in a leading article says that an
occupation by the United States of the Philip-
pines is a temporary solution of the Philippine
question, and that Great Britain is unable to regard French
German and Russian acquisition with in-
difference.

THE RIOTS IN ITALY.

Eight thousand troops occupy Milan. Fifty
say that 300 rioters were killed and 1,000 wounded.
All is now quiet.

THE AMERICAN-SPANISH WAR.

A French steamer reports that she saw the
United States cruiser *Montgomery* chased by a
powerful Spanish cruiser off Hayti. It is believed
that the two fleets are nearing each other and
that a battle is imminent.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

HARR ANDRÉS, the missing balloonist and North
Pole explorer, is said to be in the Kioodike
region.

FOR demanding more than legal fare two chair-
coolies were to-day fined \$5 each in default
of fourteen days.

WE regret to announce the death of Mrs. G.
Patton, wife of the foreman coppersmith of the
Kowloon Dock, which occurred this morning.

A CHINESE woman was to-day sentenced to six
months' hard labour for abducting a girl, 13
years of age, from Stanley Street to Yau-mai.

A MANILA paper gravely observes that "Lord
Charles Bessborough's election to the mayoralty of
New York is disputed!" It is only right that
it should be.

LIEUT. VIAUD, otherwise "Pierre Loti," the
famous French writer, is one of a number of
naval lieutenants placed on the retired list with-
out promotion after fourteen years' service. Mr
Viaud intends to make an extended Eastern
tour.

A CHINESEMAN engaged at the Kowloon godown
yesterday felt very thirsty in the heat of the day.
He asked his overseer to *camphor* him a bottle
of beer. This was refused whereupon he helped
himself. To-day he got twenty-eight days' hard
labour.

THE King of the Belgians is sending a special
mission to China, and he has entrusted it to
Count Charles d'Ursel, formerly Belgian Minister
at Bucharest and Governor of Hainaut. Count
d'Ursel was to have left Brussels for the Far
East on 24th ult.

THE recent appointments by the Inspector
General of Customs to deputy-commissioner-
ships are it is understood for the new Likin
Office, which is to be to a certain degree inde-
pendent of the Customs revenue branch of the
service.

WE learn, says the *N. C. Daily News*, that
several of the Chinese servants on board the
American men-of-war at Hongkong, some of
whom had been twenty years on board suc-
cessive American ships, on this station, deserted
when they heard there was likely to be fighting.
Shouldn't wonder.

THE PLAGUE.

Mr. Fred Yuchwa, a brother of the young lady who lately succumbed to plague, was taken to the Government Civil Hospital a few days ago suffering from fever. Yesterday his symptoms were such that he was sent to Kennedy Hospital. This morning we were pleased to hear that he was out of danger and that his condition was improving.

P. McDonald, who has had a rather severe attack of plague is now convalescent and yesterday he was allowed a day's leave from hospital. The effect of his illness has told upon him considerably, especially in the matter of weight.

Another of plague's good stories is told concerning the outbreak of 1894. A certain police officer, who had been a scotchman all his life, was feeling poorly and he consulted a well known medical man, now in England. He told his patient that he would have to leave off the whisky or it would be a serious matter for him. The patient replied in dismay, "Why, doctor, I don't know the taste of whisky or any other spirit." "You don't," said the doctor, "then it will leave you dead."

During the 24 hours up to noon, 10th May, 25 new cases and 12 deaths from plague were reported, making the total since 1st January (130 days) 944 cases and 750 deaths.

(From Ceylon papers).

A great sensation has been caused at Agia by the arrest of a Mouvie for sedition. The Mouvie, while publicly haranguing his hearers in the Market Square, endeavored to persuade both Hindus and Mohammedans to league together in opposing the Government, and compelling them to modify the Plague rules. He also objected to Mohammedans and Hindus wearing European costume and imitating English habits. The accused has been remanded.

BOMBAY, April 23rd.

The Bombay return yesterday shows 88 cases and 61 deaths from Plague; from all causes 162 deaths.

April 22nd.

The Plague at Kurrachee continues to seriously increase. It is more virulent than last year's attacks.

CALCUTTA, April 26th.

The alarming increase of Plague at Kurrachee has now spread to every corner of the town. The Plague is still spreading in the Punjab and further precautions are being taken to prevent the possibility of its reaching Simla.

CALCUTTA, April 26th.

Some uneasiness has arisen in Calcutta, owing to a number of suspicious cases of fever, with glandular swellings, suspected to be Plague, from which several deaths have occurred in the town within the past week. The greatest vigilance is being exercised by the health officers, and every precaution is being taken to stamp out the disease, which the Doctors are not prepared to admit is Plague. Dr. Haffkine's report on the culture from the first case is being awaited.

BOMBAY, April 26th.

The Bombay Gazette states that Dr. Haffkine declares that the culture of the suspicious cases in Calcutta, which have been sent to him here for examination, are undoubtedly true Plague.

PLAGUE INOCULATION.

SIMLA, April 22nd.

There is good authority for the statement that Professor Haffkine's plague inoculations in India, which have been conducted under far more reliable conditions than any previous experiments, and which were tested upon the spot by the Director-General of the Indian Medical Service during his recent tour, give results so promising as to bid fair to be of the greatest importance in dealing with the plague hereafter.

It appears that as nearly as possible half the inhabitants of a typical infected village were inoculated, but to make the comparison, observations were confined to families in which all the members were equally exposed to contagion through the occurrence of plague cases amongst them, and in each of which some individuals were inoculated and some not. In such families about seventy-four persons were inoculated and sixty-nine uninoculated. Amongst the uninoculated there subsequently occurred twenty-eight plague cases and twenty-six deaths, while amongst the inoculated there were altogether only eight cases of which three died, the remainder recovering. In other words, it would seem that inoculation proved a more or less efficacious protection in nine cases out of ten.

WATER POLO COMPETITION.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE V.R.C.

The V.R.C. Water Polo Committee, with Mr. T. Batcher representing the King's Own Regiment, and Mr. R. Lapley representing Kowloon, met yesterday evening in connection with the projected competition. It was decided that for this season at least, it should take the form of a cup to be played off in rounds, the matches to be played under the English Amateur Swimming Association's Water Polo rules of 1892.

The management will be in the hands of the V.R.C. Water Polo Committee assisted by a representative from each Regiment, corps, or club competing.

The competition is open to all teams approved of by the committee, the entrance fee being 25 pence per team and the first date up to which entries may be sent is fixed at 15th June.

Each team must be provided with two sets of caps, one red, and one white.

No player is allowed to assist more than one team during a season in connection with this competition.

Badges will be given to the winning team and a subscription is to be started to provide a challenge trophy.

Mr. A. E. Alves fills the office of Hon. Treasurer and Mr. T. Vale that of Hon. Secretary. Teams are requested to send in their entries as early as possible.

THE NEW TREATY PORTS.

Of the three new Treaty Ports that China has signified her willingness to open (whether spontaneously or at request of the British Minister in China does not seem clear) the most important is likely to be the Y-chow-fu. The city stands on the eastern shore at the entrance to the great lake of Yangtze. The lake receives the water of three large rivers—the Yangtze, the Hsiao, and the Yangtze. The produce of the surrounding country is tea, coal, iron, copper, and lead.

The opening of Chichang, in the Liao-tung Gulf, is probably more political than commercial. The importance of the port must, however, be seriously affected by the Russian railways from the North. Though in the event of Russia closing Newchwang, the present Treaty Port is the north of the Gulf of Pechili, Chichang would be a commercial port.

Funing is situated on the coast of Foshan about half-way between Wanchow and Foochow. When the Germans acquired Kiao-chow, there was some talk about their exchanging that place for a position on the Sam-shan later, at the north of which stands Funing, but nothing came of it. It is a prefectural city of some importance—L. O. C. 2nd Class.

CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

THE MONROE DOCTRINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

SIR,—In the leading article in your issue of 10th inst., "Perfidious Albion and the Monroe Doctrine," the origin of the line of policy familiar to the world as the Monroe doctrine is left in doubt. As the matter is of considerable interest at the present moment perhaps you will allow me to add a few words of explanation which may assist the solution. Having so books or other authorities convenient for reference, I write under correction, relying mainly upon memory and the contents of a letter recently received from a friend in Philadelphia.

Most of your readers know all about the "Holy Alliance." Very few years ago every combination of despots to crush the efforts of liberal thought for freedom was credited with divine origin and enveloped in the odour of sanctity. The rise of the United States and the progress of free institutions in Great Britain were viewed with suspicion and apprehension by the autocrats, or personal rulers of Europe; and while Spanish America was achieving its independence the sovereigns of Austria, France, Prussia, and Russia entered into a solemn pact to assist each other to subvert all attempts at democracy or popular freedom, and on the other side to maintain absoluteism. This, shortly, was the Holy Alliance, to which nothing could be more apposite to the spirit of the governments and people of Britain and America. The alliance was undoubtedly intended to crush the rising republics of Spanish America and re-establish absoluteism in Western America, wherever possible to do so; and it was then that President Monroe gave solemn warning that if the Holy Alliance made any move of that kind the United States would go to the aid of such republics; the British Government, on their part, letting the world know that in such a struggle British sympathies would be entirely on the side of the United States. The effect of this warning was that the Holy Alliance desisted from its avowed purpose to crush liberty in America and also in Europe.

"When President Monroe first enunciated the doctrine," so my correspondent writes, "that an injury done to any American republic by a European power was an injury to the United States, and that the latter power would resent such an effort of European monarchs to extend their system of Government on the South American Continent or spread their territorial possessions in the new world by conquest or colonization, England was the European power, and the only power, to give adhesion to this doctrine which has since borne the name of the President who declared it. Indeed the British Government prompted President Monroe to make this declaration."

Very little consideration of the principle of the Monroe doctrine shows that it embodies the main article of belief of English as well as American. Neither of us will permit, or even tolerate, the interference of any European power with our colonies in one sense, with adjacent territories in another; and the sooner this declared policy is accepted the better for international peace. It was impossible for the United States to stand by and permit the further oppression of the Cubans without violating a doctrine which may be regarded as part of the constitution; it was equally impossible for Great Britain, consistent with her former declaration of adherence, to withhold her sympathy with action that appeals to every sense of justice and humanity.

There is no doubt many persons who, still clinging to the theory of the "divine right of kings" but this is an incongruous age in which men begin to realize that the only Government is Government by themselves.

I am, &c.,

A CITIZEN OF THE WORLD.

May 11th, 1898.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The closing cruise of the season took place on Sunday, last in very fine weather, the Commodore and fleet leaving the Club moorings about one o'clock and sailing over to the north side of Stonecutter's Island, where they anchored for lunch. About half-past three a slight race was started, course round Stonecutter's Island. The boats finished as follows:—

Edis, Mrs. Deacon	4 36 25
scratch, second prize	
Tamar's Cutter, Mrs. Gray	4 38 8
received 21 min. first prize	
Maid Marian, Miss Purden	4 39 35
received 3 min.	
Payne, Mrs. Bagnall Wilde	4 40 35
received 21 min.	
Sybil, Mrs. Koo	4 43 54
received 21 min.	

The *Attila* and *Phaë* went the opposite way round to the others, but had no advantage. *Attila*, *Chandellor*, *She* (the *Attila*), *Doris*, and *Silver* also took part in the cruise, but did not race.

The draught of the *Phaë* had been increased to about 4 ft. 3 in., and she appeared to go much better for it to the good breeze, but she is scarcely fit to take Championship honours yet.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR MAY.

The above club closed its second monthly competition for the Captain's Cup on Monday last, the prize being a pair of magnificent silver gilt "summers" presented by Mr. T. Jackson. There was a large entry for the Cup and 17 went in for the pool. The larks were in good order and the play was generally of a capital description. The winner of the Pool would have bettered his score by about a stroke had he and his companion not finished almost in the dark, whilst the latter should have lowered his return by at least 4 to 5 strokes.

The following are the returns handed in:—

Mr. G. Millward	94	11 23
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	95	8 27
Mr. C. W. May	97	0 27
Dr. J. A. Lawson	99	0 50
Mr. E. F. Mackay	105	15 20
Mr. G. Stewart	93	3 20
Mr. G. T. Vetch	109	18 01
25 no. rets.		

POOL.

Mr. E. H. Morris	93	14 70
Mr. E. de G. Morris	99	13 86
Mr. G. Taylor, R.N.	97	11 26
Mr. G. T. Vetch	97	11 26
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple	97	8 27
Mr. C. W. May	99	0 50
Dr. J. A. Lawson	99	0 50
Mr. G. Stewart	93	3 20
17 entries.		

THE DEFENCES OF HONGKONG.

In the course of a well-informed article in the

Naval and Military Magazine on Hongkong, which is termed "Our Gibraltar of the Far East," the writer, Lieutenant-Colonel Le Mesurier, says:—"The defences of this distant possession are hardly commensurate with the important position it now occupies, nor are they commensurate with the position this colony is destined to occupy in the not very distant future. As China and Japan develop, the importance of the colony will become enhanced. At the moment Hongkong depends mainly upon the fleet to prevent the landing of a hostile force upon her almost defenceless southern and eastern shores. The garrison is something less than 3,000 men, which would, of course, render some assistance in repelling an attack; but it is perfectly certain that, if an enemy could succeed in confining our fleet to the harbour, very little opposition could be offered to the landing of a large force, if supported by the guns of a fleet. There are some small batteries sited on the southern side of the island but these would be of no use against heavy ships' guns. Moreover I believe that the town and harbour could be shelled by ships lying off the south coast. What is needed to render that fortress impregnable is a properly constructed set of works for the protection of that part of the island. Until something of the kind is done, Hongkong will be liable to be carried by a *coup de main*. Another important question is the supply of food. The supply of the garrison at a million inhabitants of the colony has to be brought from the mainland. Apart from the danger of having so large an alien population at one's door, it would be impossible to feed such large numbers in times of war, as the ordinary methods of supply would assuredly be dislocated by such a convulsion. He advocates British-born Chinese as militia and those who did not desire to leave to also thus serve. There are some very good reproductions of photos to assist in understanding the letter press. In regard to the food supply question, he suggests that the Typhoon and Agallier peninsulas should be fenced off as pig pens, where the Chinese have black-backed species might rear at will and prosper. These pigs are hardy and will live and fatten on little.

THE FAMINE IN THE NORTH.

With reference to the famine in the North Kiangsu district a correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes as follows:—

When we pass through a severe experience we naturally look back over the past for parallels. Unfortunately for the forerunners of these people the examples are all too frequent. There has been an average of a famine in Huichien every twenty years for 600 years. Four famines are recorded as due to heavy summer rains, the cause of the want here this year. Seven are due to droughts. Nine are merely recorded, and 17 of the floods of the Yellow River are said to have brought in a famine.

In 1797, 1847, and 1853 it is said that men ate their fellow men. Old men say that the price of grain is now higher than it was in 1853. Suffering continues as now here at Awei. Farmers buying grain fill the streets every day. Inside the East gate of Huichien the government has appropriated a large temple to sell rice tickets. The grain is sold at eight cash per catty cheaper than in the market. Several thousands crowd up to buy every day. Every precaution has to be taken lest the people injure themselves in the press. When the doors are opened a small yard is filled. Then these doors are shut and this company is admitted to a large room where they crowd up to the high log-piled tables to have their cash counted. Then they get tickets and go out by another door. With every precaution daily accidents occur. To-day for instance, during the morning, two girls were so crushed that their heads bled freely. One man's leg was broken and another was most seriously injured. Such is the mad jam to be one to save a few cash on 5 catties of rice.

These forty days' still harvest seem almost an age, and hundreds, perhaps thousands, will not live to see the wheat that looks so promising now.

Speaking of the famine in North Kiangsu this year, it may be of interest to some to recall the work of the Yellow River which it flowed through here. The records are terrible. The sickle and reaper seem to have been turned away by the high log-piled tables to have their cash counted. Then they get tickets and go out by another door. With every precaution daily accidents occur. To-day for instance, during the morning, two girls were so crushed that their heads bled freely. One man's leg was broken and another was most seriously injured. Such is the mad jam to be one to save a few cash on 5 catties of rice.

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1878—Attempted assassination of the German Emperor.

1880—The Duke of Genoa arrived in Hongkong.

1889—Death of Father Damien.

1891—Attempted assassination of the Czar.

1894—Collision between the *Mike Maru* and *Manwathakra* near the Tugaba lightship.

1897—The Powers proposed mediation between Turkey and Greece.

TO-MORROW.

Thursday, 12th May, 1898.

Chinese—22nd of 1st. 3rd moon of 44th year of Kwong-shi.

Jewish—10th Nisan, 5658.

Mohammedan—20th Dhu'l-hajja, 1218.

Sun—Rises 5hr. 30min.

Set 5hr. 30min.

High water—Morning 5hr. 17min.

Afternoon 5hr. 57min.

Low water—Morning 5hr. 35min.

Afternoon 5hr. 55min.

ANNIVERSARIES.

1807—Passage of the Dome under Wellington.

1831—The East India Co.'s garden at Canton destroyed by

Intimations.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

(THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY.)



PROJECTED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS.	DESTINATIONS.	SAILING DATES.
IZUMI MARU	Kobe and YOKOHAMA	THURSDAY, 12th May, at 4 P.M.
R. Nishime	VLADIVOSTOK, via SHANGHAI, CHIOO, CHEMULPO, NAOSAKI, FUSAN and GENNAI	FRIDAY, 13th May, at 4 P.M.
SAGAMI MARU	SINGAPORE (via shipping cargo for JAPA PORTS) COLOMB and BOMBAH	TUESDAY, 17th May, at Noon.
MATSUYAMA MARU	SEATTLE, WASH., via KORE and YOKOHAMA	THURSDAY, 19th May, at 4 P.M.
KINSHU MARU	MAKESILLIES, LONDON, and ANF-WERP, via SINGAPORE (Trans-ship- ping Cargo for JAPA PORTS), PENANG, COLOMB and PORT SAID	MONDAY, 23rd May, at 4 P.M.
KANAGAWA MARU	THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNS- VILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY and MELBOURNE	FRIDAY, 27th May, at 4 P.M.
OMI MARU		

Through Passenger Tickets and Bills of Lading issued for the Principal Cities in the United States, Canada and Europe, in connection with the GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY and Atlantic Steamers.

For further information as to Freight, Passage, Sailings &c., apply at the Company's Local Branch Office at No. 7, Praya Central.

A. S. MIHARA, Manager.

Hongkong, 9th May, 1898.

THE WORLD RENOWNED

FRENCH CORSETS C. P. A LA SIRENE

Established 1839, PARIS.

Beware of Spurious Imitations

Only genuine if Labelled and Stamped

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SETTING UP OF DISTILLERIES

Rice—Corn—Sugar-cane, etc.
PRODUCTION OF EXTRA-NEUTRAL ALCOHOLSSETTING UP OF
Liquors Factories—Preserves Factories
Laboratories of Druggists—Essences Factories
STEAM KITCHENS
EGROT & GRANGE, rue Mathis, PARIS

Apply to Messrs. DODWELL CARLILL & Co., Hong Kong.

TO PREVENT CONSUMPTION.

Only one way is known. Increase vitality by making the system assimilate the right nourishment. This enriches the blood, assists in making healthy flesh, restores body-heat and vigorous action of the vital organs, and prevents the germs from taking root in the lungs.

Scott's Emulsion

is the most successful means for building up a weakened system. It is easily assimilated, and often cures advanced stages of this dreadful disease. Prepared by SCOTT & BOWNE, Limited, London. Sold by all Chemists.

Sole Agents for Hongkong and the Empire of China:—WATKINS & Co., Hongkong.

SERRAVALLO'S FERRUGINOUS QUININE.

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OF PERUVIAN BARK AND IRON.

Over 300 Medical Certificates testifying its great STRENGTH-GIVING PROPERTIES and at the same time being of an

EXQUISITE TASTE.

Sole Agents for Hongkong:—A. S. WATSON & Co.

Hongkong, 1st September, 1896.

NOTICE.

THE BEST PREVENTIVE OF ALL INFECTIOUS DISEASES.



AVOID ALL RISK OF OUTBREAK BY ITS USE.

W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co., Bank Buildings.

Hongkong, 9th March, 1897.

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.
(UNDER MAIL CONTRACT WITH THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT).

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, COLOMBO, BOMBAY, KURACHI, ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, VENICE, Fiume, AND TRIESTE.

(Taking Cargo at through rates to CALCUTTA, MADRAS, PERSIAN GULF, RED SEA, BLACK SEA, LEVANT, ADRIATIC, and SOUTH AFRICAN PORTS).

THE Company's Steamship

"TRIESTE," Captain A. Gills, will be despatched as above on FRIDAY, the 13th instant, P.M. Silk and Valuables are transhipped at Bombay into an accelerated liner. For Information as to Passage and Freight, apply to

SANDER, WIELER & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 7th May, 1898. [634]

EAST ASIATIC COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR HAYRE, ROTTERDAM AND COPENHAGEN.

THE Company's Steamship

"SAM," Captain C. Coll, will be despatched as above on or about the 13th May. For Freight or Passage, apply to

ARNHOLD, KARBURG & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 16th April, 1898. [541]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

THE Company's Steamship

"CHINGTU," Captain Jones, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 18th instant, at 3 P.M. The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. The First-class Saloon is situated forward of the Engine. A Refrigerating Chamber ensures the Supply of Fresh Provisions during the entire voyage. A daily qualified Surgeon is carried and the Vessel is fitted throughout with Electric Light. N.B.—Return Tickets issued by this Company to and from AUSTRALIA are available for return by the Steamers of the EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN S. S. Co. and vice versa. For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, 9th May, 1898. [609]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR TIENTSIN.

THE Company's Steamship

"NANCHANG," Captain Fitzroy, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 18th instant, at 3 P.M. For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, 10th May, 1898. [611]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR NINGPO AND SHANGHAI.

THE Company's Steamship

"KALGAN," Captain Bonnet, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 18th instant, at 3 P.M. For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, 10th May, 1898. [614]

FOR NEW YORK, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship

"QUEEN MARGARET," will be despatched as above on or about the 25th May, 1898. To be followed by

S.S. "ST. NINIAN," on or about 15th June, 1898. S.S. "CRAIGEARN," on or about 30th June, 1898. For Freight, &c., apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 20th April, 1898. [485]

MOGUL-WARRACK-MILBURN LINE.

FOR NEW YORK, VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship

"ENERGIA," will be despatched as above on or about the 25th instant. S.S. "AFRIDI," about 20th June, 1898. S.S. "FATHAN," 15th July, 1898. S.S. "MACDUFF," 31st July, 1898. For Freight or Passage, apply to

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 4th May, 1898. [353]

SAILING VESSELS.

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

THE British Bark

"WEST YORK," W. L. Foster, Master, will load here for the above Port, and will have quick despatch. For Freight, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 7th March, 1898. [313]

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

THE 100 A I British Ship

"IMBERHORNE," Lever, Master, Shortly expected here, will load for the above port and will have quick despatch. For Freight, apply to

SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 19th March, 1898. [414]

LEVY HERMANOS.

DIAMOND MERCHANTS, JEWELLERS AND WATCHMAKERS.

Sole Agents in the East for the amalgamated CHAS. HUBER and GLADIATOR CO., Ltd., DOMINGO TYLER'S BICYCLES—PRICE, \$125. A special reliable Watch made for this Climate. Quality Bicycles, \$125. Quality Bicycles, \$125. 10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Opposite the Telegraph Office.

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